



"EMS Currents"

Sacramento Metro Fire District's EMS Division Newsletter...Will you make a difference today?

Special Interest Articles:

- EMS Coordinator Survey
- Patient Care & PCR Issues
- Paramedic Academy
- Patient Non-Transport Forms (PNTF)
- FYI...



"To be a successful father . . . there's one absolute rule: when you have a kid, don't look at it for the first two years."

Ernest Hemingway

EMS Coordinator...

By: Steve Cantelme

The EMS Coordinator positions have been placed on hold for this upcoming fiscal year. The position will be reevaluated with respect to the budget next year. All three Coordinators did a great job and their contributions to the EMS Division will be missed - thanks to Tim Maybee, Bob Bruce and Randy Hein.

With the elimination of the EMS Coordinator positions, the EMS Division will be soliciting for the two open day EMS Officer positions. If you recall, these two positions were left unfilled until a decision regarding the EMS Coordinator positions could be resolved. Anyone interested in coming into the EMS Division should look for the announcement very soon.

Patient Care & PCR Issues

By EMS Staff

- Questions continue to trickle in from the line regarding the issue of when to write a PCR. State, County and District policy require a PCR be completed anytime you come into contact with a patient. District policy #903.01 further defines when a PCR needs to be completed.

District personnel shall complete a PCR for any patient if any of the follow:

1. District paramedic retains patient care.
2. Patient is released on scene to include those declared dead on scene.
3. District paramedic provides ALS treatment/procedure before a transporting agency other than Metro Fire assumes care - use of the cardiac monitor for patient assessment is not an ALS treatment/procedure.
4. Patient is transported in a District ambulance and another EMS provider retains primary patient care. The Metro PCR is for billing purposes and will not be given to the hospital.
5. If in the judgment of the first-in paramedic or Company Officer a PCR needs to be completed.



"When I am abroad, I always make it a rule never to criticize or attack the government of my country. I make up for the lost time when I come home."

Winston Churchill

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Brian Shannon, C/P -
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Craig Henderson, FF/P
(Paramedic
Program/Education)

EMS Coordinators, (Operations)

- Randy Hein A Shift
- Bob Bruce B Shift
- Tim Maybee C Shift

Kristina Freas, MICN Medical
Advisor

Hernando Garzon, MD Medical
Advisor

June Dates:

- 14th Flag Day
- 17th Father's Day
- 21st First Day of Summer

"A people that values its privileges above its principles soon loses both"

Dwight D. Eisenhower

Mercy-Metro Training

By: Brian Shannon

The next Mercy-Metro training delivery is scheduled for June 19-20 at the Lukas building at Mercy San Juan Hospital. The class is offered on back-to-back days and will provide 6 CE's for six hours of training. Mercy is the provider of the CE's.

The protocol updates include adult and pedi respiratory distress (8020) and (9003) neonatal resuscitation (9009) trauma triage criteria (5053) trauma destination (5052) and pedi trauma (9017). Skills will include 12 lead, Easy IO and Combitube. The District will compensate District approved paramedics to attend one time per calendar year.

Transporting Patients

By: Steve Cantelme

I am seeing a dramatic increase in the number of complaints I am receiving from the public as well as our own personnel regarding the issue of "discouraging" patients from going to the hospital via ambulance. If a patient has a medical complaint and requests transport to the hospital then we need to transport the patient and efforts to discourage ambulance transport need to stop.

Company Officers should be involved in this process and have the responsibility to intervene if this type of discourse with the patient is occurring. Metro has one of the lowest transport rates in the County and I suspect the increase in complaints reflects one of the reasons why the transport rate is so low. *If a patient wants to be transported then please transport the patient.*

FYI

- Stryker has been selected to supply Metro Fire with their stair chair. The chairs have already been ordered and should be in the stations by the end of July.
- Stryker has been selected to supply Metro fire with their power gurney. The order for the gurneys should be made in July with a delivery date in September.
- CentreLearn has been selected to provide Metro fire with their online training program. You can expect to start receiving online training for EMS and Suppression/Rescue by the end of the summer.
- Zachary Taylor and Tim Eisert are recipients of commendation letters from MSJ for their early identification and intervention of an acute MI. Congratulations for your good work!

